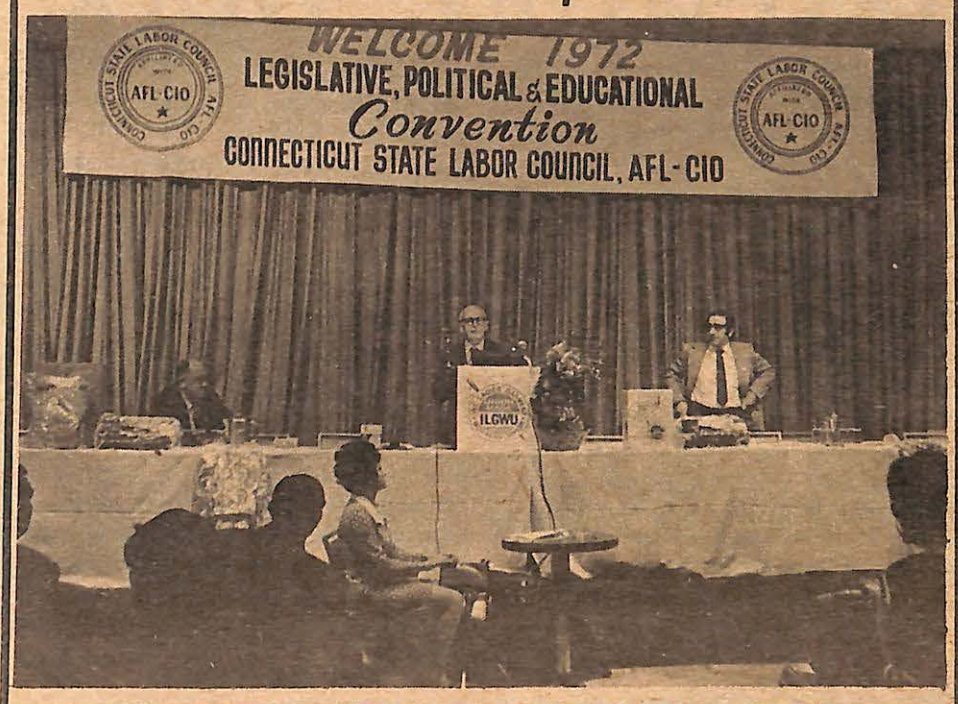
# John Driscoll Speaks Out




**John Driscoll, President of the Connecticut State Labor Council, speaking at the State Labor Convention held in New Haven at the end of June. See the interview with him on page 2. (M-T photo by V. Commisso).**


MODERN TIMES

10¢

"What you do is news!"

Call 562-2510

New Haven

Vol. III, No. 6

July 15-31, 1972


# Contract Victory Averts Olin Strike

by Matt Borenstein
*Modern Times Staff*

Production workers at Winchester in New Haven have won a new two year contract with significant gains in pension, insurance, and sick pay benefits. The contract agreement came as a great surprise and relief to the union, which fought through a bitter 17 week strike in 1969 trying to obtain some of the benefits which were only won this time around.

Over 1000 members of the International Association of Machinists, Lodge 609, voted unanimously to accept the contract proposal, just six days before the old contract was due to expire on July 15.

Winchester-Western, a division of the gigantic Olin Corporation, is a major producer of firearms (New Haven plant) and machine tools (Branford Ramset plant).

The major gains came in benefits, although the wage increase of 5% the first year and 5½% the second year are particularly important since they were won from one of New Haven's largest employers.

It is probable that the gains are due to the strong showing the union made in the 1969 strike, even though they were not obtained at that time.

For the first time, negotiations were held with all local management --no one from Olin's national corporate headquarters participated directly in the discussions. In addition, no state or federal mediators were required. *See OLIN, Page 3*


"Workfare": Page 2 & 6

Open Line on Canal: Page 9

Labor Convention: Page 4


# Angry Residents Jeer Rowing Canal

by David Wessel
*Modern Times Staff*

"Trippe is running the city," shouted Alderman Raymond O'Neill as he stormed out of the Board of Aldermen meeting on July 10. O'Neill's comment was probably the most profound of the entire meeting at which the fate of Edgewood Park was sealed for at least the next forty years.

The Aldermen, despite continued public opposition, voted 20 - 6 to approve the contract with Juan Trippe's Rowing Course Foundation to construct an olympic rowing lagoon. Trippe is a Yale alumnus and former chairman of Pan American Airlines.

Less than a week before the Board of Aldermen meeting, over 150 Westville residents gathered at Sheridan Middle School to discuss the rowing lagoon project in Edgewood Park. This meeting was called by Mrs. Rosalind Berman (Republican Alderwoman from the 29th Ward).

Most of the residents attending voiced opposition to the multi-million dollar project which would develop the only olympic-sized rowing facility in the nation. It is common knowledge that Yale is very interested in developing the site for its crew team.

### Board Shifts for Trippe

The July 10 Board of Aldermen meeting began late because of a lengthy Democratic Caucus. The rowing course was moved from the bottom to the top of the agenda to the delight of the 75 citizens who came to observe. Most of the 75 were opposed to the rowing course.

**At the left, Vincent Mauro, President of the Board of Aldermen, who reversed his position when Juan Trippe told him to. In the center, Alderwoman Rosalind Berman of Westville registers objections to the rowing canal. At the right, spectators at the packed public session. (M-T photos by Ray Milici).**

The Board first passed an amendment, endorsed by Board President Vincent Mauro, which would have made the Board of Aldermen responsible for the final approval of the design of the course and adjacent facilities. The original contract called only for the Park Commissioners to have this responsibility.

Later in the evening Mauro announced that he had just talked with Juan Trippe by phone. According to Mauro, Trippe would not accept the contract as amended by the Board. Mauro moved to rescind his amendment and the Board went along. It was at this point that O'Neill angrily walked out. The Board then approved an earlier suggestion by 12th Ward Democrat, Alan DeLisle, which provides a commission including five city officials and nine aldermen to oversee the design.

### Opposition Ignored

The results of the earlier Westville meeting were largely ignored by the Board of Aldermen. That meeting in-

*See CANAL, Page 8*

# Welfare Clients Forced To Work

by Steven Ellner
*Modern Times Staff*

The Talmadge Amendment, just passed by the U.S. Congress, will force most welfare recipients to register for work. Effective July 1, the amendment makes it imperative for welfare clients to accept any job offered to them, even if the pay is below minimum wage.

Matilda Gibbs, President of the New Haven Welfare MOMS has stated that confusion more than anything else surrounds the forced work system. "So far they haven't given us any information about the plan. You have all these other people who are unemployed, so how is Welfare going to find us jobs? In fact, currently in the State of Connecticut, there are almost as many people collecting unemployment, as are on Welfare. "I wouldn't discount the possibility that this whole thing is another attempt by the Man to harass those on Welfare."

Mrs. Gibbs and others interviewed concurred that the Talmadge Amendment is a political football. Politicians can make publicity out of their support for an act which purports to take people off the public dole.

**Welfare Workers Effected**

Jim Gaito, the Acting President of the Connecticut Union of Welfare Employees, Local 629, has underscored the harmful effects that the amendment is likely to have on clients and welfare workers alike. Gaito stated that "the new welfare set-up will result in extra paper work for us without any real impact on the clients.

"That is because the Welfare Department lacks the day care facilities and the job slots, thus making it impossible for them to place most clients on jobs." Thus although the long range possibility is that Welfare recipients will be a source of cheap labor for employers and unfair competition for employees, the immediate job prospects for those on welfare are dim.

The only day care center operated by the Welfare Department, called the Quinnipiac Day Care Center, is run by two workers and is attended by only one child. Welfare mothers, although they use other day care facilities refuse to send their children to this one because, as one welfare worker bluntly stated, "it is in such a mess."

The Talmadge Amendment also fails to provide the job training that would possibly give Welfare clients a foothold in the present day competative job market. In fact, WIN or Work Incentive Program, has eliminated its program which paid Welfare recipients babysitting and transportation expenses in order for them to attend various job training courses.

**No Choice of Jobs**

Lenny Zollo, a job counselor for New Haven WIN explained to **Modern Times** that the emphasis is now away from skilled positions and toward placing Welfare clients on any possible job. Thus it will no longer be possible for welfare clients to attend college under the WIN program. In addition, the hairdressing program which had been the most popular course for clients has now been eliminated because of the scarcity of jobs. Other programs, such as inhalation therapy which is run by the hospitals, are filled to capacity.

The Welfare recipients will be forced to obtain what one social worker, Irm Wessel, called "dead end jobs." Wessel maintains that "in getting jobs in the service industry, probably for $1.25 an hour these people will have no chance of getting out of the Welfare cycle." In addition, forced work eliminates the element of choice in the job hunting process, and thus people are forced into jobs for which they have no respect.

The Talmadge Amendment is linked to the welfare flat grant system which will go into effect August 1. The program will give all Connecticut clients with the same number of children uniform grants regardless of individual expenses. It will be especially burdensome of recipients in cities and areas close to New York, where prices are higher.

San Francisco, 1934, Paul Shuster Taylor

# Driscoll Airs Anti Nixon Sentiment

by Stan Heller
*Modern Times Staff*

The AFL-CIO is gearing up a giant "Dump Nixon" campaign. Why the unprecedented political effort? **Modern Times** was granted an exclusive interview with John Driscoll, President of the Connecticut State Labor Council, who gave the following explanation for organized labor's opposition to Nixon.

"Nixon has been shown to be the greatest disaster for both blue and white collar wage earners since Herbert Hoover. During this last term, he was able to gain control of the National Labor Relations Board, NLRB, and reverse its policy of giving workers an equal chance in fighting anti-union employers like United Aircraft.

"If Nixon is reelected and gets a chance to make more appointments to the Supreme Court, the effects might last another fifteen years. If the Republicans gain control of Congress this year, then probably lots of anti-union legislation sponsored by the National Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers will be passed. Co-ordinated bargaining could be outlowed. Then, in United Aircraft, people working at East Hartford couldn't even talk to workers in Windsor Locks about contract proposals.

"Probably a Republican controlled Congress would force compulsory arbitration in every major industry. Also, unions would be prohibited from spending dues money for programs to get union members to vote and get workers facts on legislation. The AFL-CIO would survive more years of Nixon but both our bargaining and organizing would be crippled."

**Across the Board Controls**

Key to labor's rejection of Nixon is his system of wage-price controls. Driscoll explained the kind of controls the AFL-CIO would support.

**"Across the board controls. Controls on profits and dividends as well as on wages and prices. And no stock options or other devices that give corporate managers special privileges.** We would of course need a huge bureaucracy to enforce these controls, but with all the millions unemployed it wouldn't hurt for the government to hire 200,000 of them. I see that Nixon just let loose money to construct 30 new tankers. But that's 11 or 12 million that was authorized by Congress a while back which he never spent. Now he is going to spend it to create the illusion of doing something about unemployment."

**Labor and McGovern**

When asked whether he thought the AFL-CIO would back McGovern if he was the Democratic nominee, Driscoll said,"I'd need a crystall ball on that one. They'll make the decision on August 28." Driscoll felt that basic objections many labor officials have to McGovern "Started out with his vote in the Senate against the repeal of section 14b of the Taft-Hartley Act which permits states to outlaw the union shop. In some eyes that alone is a capital crime. In the last couple of years his record has been pretty good, though he voted against giving aid to lockheed and against the SST program. Both of these programs would have provided thousands of needed jobs."

**Labor's Candidates**

"Based on the AFL-CIO's policy of encouraging active participation in state and national conventions, Driscoll was asked to speculate on the possibility that one day labor might run its own candidates.

**"I see that day coming even this year. There are some races where the Republican and Democratic candidates aren't even worthy of the name. If we get a good cross section of support from labor and from progressive groups, we will be running some of our candidates."**

BOYCOTT ONLY BUY FARMWORKERS AFL-CIO UNION LABEL LETTUCE

# Angry Citizens Against Tax Hikes

by Henry Tamarin
*Modern Times Staff*

Over 100 angry people crowded into the Hall of Records at 200 Orange Street on the evening of June 29 to air their gripes on the rise in property taxes this year. They presented a petition of over 3700 names calling for a charter revision that would allow more representative control over the budget and taxes.

The vast majority of those present were members of a taxpayer's association, Concerned Citizens of New Haven. The ptition, one of two being circulated by the group, was presented to the Commission by Mr. Bill Shepard. The presentation occurred only after Mr. Shepard spelled out the relevance of this particular petition to the Charter Revision Commission. Mr. Frank Mongillo, Jr., Chairman of the Commission, had suggested that perhaps the groups was making a mistake on speaking on the tax issue to the Charter Revision Commission. The other petition being circulated by the Concerned Citizens of New Haven calls for immediate tax relief and will be presented to the Board of Alderman at their next meeting.

The relationship between the Board of Alderman and the Board of Finance was only one topic of the meeting. Also on the agenda was restructuring of the Board of Education and Compensation for Alderman. The commission made an effort to discuss these issues before the discussion of the Board of Finance without making it clear to the crowd what was going on. Not unexpectedly, most people reacted strongly to the suggestion that alderman get paid for being alderman. Any discussion other than that of taxes and city spending did not get much attention from the group and discussions on those topics was rather confused.

# Bus Drivers Get More Support

*(From the July Hospital Workers Newsletter at Yale-New Haven Hospital)*

Sometimes workers go on strike not only for themselves, but for a better community in general. One example of this is the teachers--not only do they want a decent wage for themselves, but also more schools and teachers and a better education for their pupils. Another example is the hospital workers--not only do they want respectable wages and working conditions, but better patient care as well.

A very recent example of the same thing is the Connecticut Company bus drivers. Not only did they want to protect their jobs, but they also wanted to provide decent bus transportation for the public. The recent four-day bus strike took place because the bus company wanted to cut down on other runs as well. The bus drivers refused to work on this new schedule and returned to work only when the old schedule was re-instated.

Thanks to the bus drivers, the bus cuts did not happen, a good example of what a union can do. But the bus cuts can still happen. The bus drivers union needs and deserves our support. If you feel as we do, write us a short letter protesting any bus cuts, and we will forward it to the proper authorities. Write to: the Concerned Hospital Workers, *Box C-3, 80 Knox St., West Haven, Ct.*, 06516.

# NYC Hospital Win Lauded

**by Matt Borenstein**
*Modern Times Staff*

Hospital workers in New Haven have been following with interest the recent struggles and victories of over 40,000 hospital workers in New York City, members of Local 1199 of the National Drug and Hospital Union. It is of particular interest to to the 1100 workers at Yale-New Haven Hospital, who for the last few years have been trying to organize and affiliate with the same union.

Local 1199 won two important battles in the last few weeks. After an afternoon work stoppage and a mass demonstration in front of City Hall and a court injunction hanging over their heads -- the union won a 15% wage increase over two years. The minimum wage was previously $130 per week.

The New York City administration also wanted to transfer 4000 hospital workers from the jurisdiction of Local 1199 to the city payroll (represented by anoth union). Local 1199 refused to allow this unless the workers were assured of the benefits they had already won. The union, despite a restraining court injunction threatened a strike of all 42,000 if the security of the 4000 was not guaranteed.

The union demanded the intervention of Mayor Lindsay in the dispute and won! The Concerned Hospital Workers of the Yale New Haven Hospital wrote: "We, in Connecticut are proud of our brothers and sisters in New York. We are proud that they have the courage, guts and intelligence to stand up and fight.

"We too can be united and strong. But to really be strong, we must join together into a union, Local 1199.

# Olin Workers Win Contract

*Continued from page 1.*

Negotiations between 609 and Olin began last March and on June 25 the union membership rejected a company offer. At that time they gave their negotiating committee the power to take any advisable actions necessary to achieve a just settlement.

Over one third of the 1500 workers have been at the plant through the bitter struggles to form a union, the transition in ownership from Winchester to Olin, the 17 week strike in 1969, and the opening of a new production facility in Branford (Ramset).

For these workers with over 25 years at Winchester-Olin, the new contract provides a substantial increase in retirement benefits. The new pension plan provides $6.00 per month for each year of service this year and $6.50 next year. That's up from $4.50 in the old contract.

The previous contract only allowed pension credit starting from age 30. Many workers, however, started when they were 16 or 17 and have been working there for over 30 years. The new agreement gives pension credit for all years of work. For a worker who retires during the next two years this could mean an additional $90 per month.

In 1969, Olin had argued that it couldn't provide pension benefits that were not "company wide." This year the union won a distinction from other Winchester plants and now has a much better pension plan.

**Wage Increases**

The wage increases average 5% the first year and 5½% starting in July 1973. The lowest paid worker will then start at $3.30 per hour. Also, workers who had been on incentive pay before 1969 (red circle), still maintain their pay levels with the highest getting a 5¢ per hour increase.

Two steps have been eliminated from increment scale so that workers get pay increases in bigger chunks.

Big gains were made in sickness and accident pay. Previously, the amount received when ill or injured depended on the labor grade. The lowest paid workers would get $55 per week and the highest paid workers would get $75 per week, with two steps in between.

By July, 1973 all Olin workers will get $80 per week sick pay--regardless of the labor grade.

**Medical Benefits**

In 1969, the union had fought for the CMS-Century Plan for company paid medical insurance but didn't get it. This year they did. In addition, company-paid life insurance will go from $5000 to $6500 this year and to $8000 in July, 1973.

Job security has been reinforced with more flexible seniority rights. Rather than having to stay within one of 29 different departments for bumping, the areas have been broadened reducing the number to seven.

In general, the new contract language is greatly simplified so that workers can understand their rights without extensive legal training.

# Labor Notes

**WAGE FREEZE WORKING – PROFITS WAY UP**

According to the **U.S. News and World Report** (6/19) "corporate earnings are climbing to a new high." Unit labor costs through increased productivity increased less than 1% since 1970 in contrast to a 6% annual rate in the preceding two years. "The President's Council of Economic Advisors forecasts that profits, before taxes, will reach a record of $99 billion. This is an increase of 16% from last year and up 31% from 1970.

**GREYHOUND HOT DOGS AND L-T-V BEEF**

Some of the big operators in the beef industry these days are such corporations as Greyhound, Ling-Temco-Vought (L-T-V), Atlantic-Richfield Oil, and Dupont. They all have their fingers in the meat pie. L-T-V, for example, one of the biggest conglomerates, and the tenth largest defense contractor, just obtained 84% of the stock of Wilson & Co., one of the leading meat packing companies in the country. Wilson can stamp out 150 million hamburgers a year for MacDonald's. In 1970, Greyhound bought Armour & Co. which increased Greyhound's sales by 300%.

**ECONOMIC NOTES', JUNE 1972**

**LABOR SUPPORTS VICTIMS OF FLOODS**

The role of organized labor in helping its members and rallying to deal with disasters is seldomly covered in big newspapers. One example is the recent floods on the East Coast. The **AFL-CIO News**, July 1, 1972 reported that trained disaster experts from union ranks were on the scene in Pennsylvania and other flooded areas, working in cooperation with the Civil Defense and AFL-CIO state and local bodies. The Ladies' Garment Workers immediately pledged $1 million for the relief of garment workers and their families in Pennsylvania, as well as other forms of assistance.

# State Labor--Thumbs Down on Nixon

by Stan Heller
*Modern Times Staff*

"Dump Nixon is the target and there isn't much else that matters to me now. We can't take another four years of this." That is what William Winpisinger, International Association of Machinists (IAM) told delegates at the Connecticut State Labor Council meeting June 28-30 in New Haven.

The theme of voting Nixon out of office was echoed again and again at the convention and buttons with the slogan "Dump Nixon" decorated the jackets and dresses of most of the delegates. The convention itself was held three months early so that unionists could get a head start in the fall's political campaigns.

**Labor, both nationally and locally, is putting forth political efforts unmatched in recent years.** According to the Political Action Report of COPE Director Madeline Matchko, the Labor Council will be using the 155,000 names of Connecticut union members to launch a larger voter registration and get-out-the-vote campaign.

**Alliances Created**

Alliances have been created with United Auto Workers political action councils. "**As a result", she said, "United Labor Committees were established in four of the six congressional districts.**" Finally, unionists made a special effort to become delegates to State and National Political Conventions. Connecticut will be sending eleven unionists as delegates and alternates to the Democratic Convention this month in Miami.

**Speaker after speaker at the Connecticut State Labor Convention denounced Nixon's economic policies. The convention was held in New Haven at the Park Plaza Hotel. (m-t photo by V. Comisso.)**

Below the surface of official optimism and determination, however, was scarcely concealed nervousness and even gloom about the real possibilities of unseating the president. While there was unity of opposition to Nixon, there was fear that the Democrats' candidate might not obtain party unity and labor enthusiasm. Many labor leaders have been quite cool to the idea of a McGovern candidacy. A few delegates said they thought if McGovern were nominated the AFL-CIO would give only half-hearted support. Others believed that Nixon would beat any Democratic nominee.

There was little excitement or conflict on the convention floor as compared with some of the wilder floor fights of past years. The issue of the income tax versus the sales tax did give rise to considerable debate, however. **The Resolutions Committee offered a resolution to "repeal the Connecticut Sales Tax and to substitute in its place a graduated state income tax which would be based on ability to pay."** Some delegates spoke against the resolution claiming as did a Brassworker's delegate that the "rank and file demonstrated their desires against the income tax." Others expressed fears that the income tax would hit hardest at middle income people.

**Income Tax Passed**

Speaking in favor of the resolution, delegates pointed out that a sales tax heavily taxed the poor, the unemployed, and the underpaid, who would not have to pay much if any income tax. Robert Brunell, president of the Connecticut State Federation of Teachers said that the wealthy could "get around a sales tax by making their purchases out of state," thus evading the tax and possibly hurting the demand for Connecticut goods. Peter Reilly of the Ironworkers Executive Board said that his objection was to an income tax *in addition* to a sales tax, but that the resolution calling for the replacement of the sales tax "eliminates any problems as far as the building trades are concerned." In the end the resolution passed by a wide margin.

# Boycott Farah Clothes

by Stan Heller
*Modern Times Staff*

At the Convention of the Connecticut State Labor Council (AFL-CIO), delegates heard a plea by Robert Wiseman, *New England Director of the Union* Label Department, for a boycott of all clothing produced by the Farah Manufacturing Company of El Paso, Texas.

A large and bitter strike has developed because of the firing of several workers who were trying to form a union.

**Three thousand of Farah's 10,000 employees have walked out in a protest against this unfair and illegal labor practice.**

According to Mr. Wiseman, over 700 strikers have been arrested, most of whom have been charged with violating an unusual law against "picketing less than 50 feet apart." Many have been pulled out of their homes in the middle of the night. Bail has been set at $400. Normally bail for a misdemeanor is $25. **Wiseman also claimed company guards patrol the plants with unmuzzled police dogs trying to intimidate the workers into returning to work.**

**Boycott Farah Products**

Nevertheless the strike has continued for several weeks now under the leadership of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union (AFL-CIO).

Thousands of the strikers are Mexicans who travel daily into Texas to work in the Farah Plants. For this reason strike support has become international. One of the prominent Mexicans supporting the strike is the Bishop of Juarez who Wiseman said, "has endorsed the strikers cause and is lending moral and spiritual support."

**Farah clothing is sold nationwide and is one of the main brands sold at Macy's and other stores in New Haven.** Wiseman and State AFL-CIO President Driscoll asked that all unionists boycott Farah products until the strike is satisfactorily settled.

# *Giaimo Vetoes Job Safety*

by Rick Wolff

"How can a Democrat from around New Haven dare to vote against money for education and against money to do something about job safety for people at unsafe work places?" The machinist, who works at Winchester, was talking about Congressman Robert N. Giaimo and the votes he cast in Washington on June 15.

On both votes, Giaimo deserted most of his fellow Democrats and joined with most Republicans. The AFL-CIO strongly denounced Giaimo and the other Congressional Representatives for their votes "against the interests of working people."

The first vote was about job safety. The House of Representatives voted 213 to 154 to exclude almost 20 million workers from the protection promised by the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act.

**No Need to Worry**

The vote will allow employers with fewer than 25 employees not to worry about the Safety Act. Giaimo's vote helped to pass this exclusion despite statistics presented to the Congress which showed that most accidents occur in small businesses--the very ones excluded by this vote.

The second vote concerned an additional $364 million to be used to provide extra services for children in the poorest neighborhoods.

Giaimo was one of the few Democrats who joined with most Republicans to try and defeat the extra money. They failed. The vote for the extra money won by 212 to 163 votes.

# Busing Aids Learning

**By Joseph Dimow, President, New Haven Human Relations Council**

Over 200 people heard a strong defense of busing as a means to overcome racial segregation in the schools, at a meeting at Sheridan School on Wednesday, June 28.

Dr. Joseph Samuels, formerly an administrator in the New Haven school system, was the main speaker at the meeting which was jointly sponsored by the Black Coalition and the Human Relations Council.

Samuels helped organize Project Concern in New Haven and wrote his doctoral thesis on the program which involves sending inner-city children to suburban schools along with a teacher and an aide. He said the results showed marked improvements in reading scores for Project Concern children when compared with other programs or various comparison schools.

A panel responding to the speech and answering questions consisted of Dr. James Comer, a psychiatrist, Mrs. Ruth Anderson, parent of a Project Concern youngster, and Chester Crowley, Principal of two suburban schools with Project Concern children. Bernard Burg spoke for the Human Relations Council and Doris Morrison of the Black Coalition chaired the meeting.

During the question period the audience expressed its approval of Project Concern and other methods of offering alternative educational opportunities as well as a desire to see them extended.

Some of the issues discussed by the audience were that children learn from each other, that more contact between black and white is needed and the necessity of creating a good learning environment.

The Nixon administration was sharply criticized for encouraging racism and it was pointed out that governmental change is needed to provide leadership for setting patterns of morality and life style which can bring progressive change.

# Daycare Funds Cut

**by Joelle Dominski**
*Modern Times Staff*

Nine city day care centers are losing out in a dispute between the Inner City Day Care Council and their funding agencies, Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and Community Progress Inc. (CPI). Fund cutbacks have eliminated jobs of some administrators, and have decreased the effectiveness of the Centers for the approximately 600 children they serve.

"We're feeling the effects of Governor Meskill's administration," says Karin Cook, Cook, Acting Director of the Neighborhood Nursery, a day care center which serves Wooster Square. She feels that the state is "most concerned about efficiency and least concerned about quality." At her center, a $65,000 budget has been cut to $40,000 as of July 1.

Along with the fund cutbacks, a reorganization is planned, which is referred to as "decentralization" by DCA. That agency says the same amount of money has been allotted to New Haven as in the past, but it has been reallocated. Before funds were divided between the centers, money was taken out to establish a new coordinating agency.

DCA has ruled that the educational coordinator and the accountant will be dropped from all the centers. They say these jobs will be handled through the newly proposed support unit. There is a dispute about whether CPI or the Inner City Day Care Council will the support unit.

### Directors Object

Because money is being spent on the support unit, there is less money for each day care center. DCA originally ruled that there would be cuts in staff at all the centers. Day care directors objected to the cuts and also to the way the positions were eliminated. There was no advance warning, and no formal notice.

"There should at least have been a letter to the directors a month ahead of time," says Ethel Archibald, director of the Day Care Council. "People have to plan when they're going to lose their jobs."

As a result of heated negotiations, DCA has compromised that the fund cutbacks do not necessarily have to be made in salaries. They can be taken in supplies or other areas instead. But this doesn't remedy the situation. "It would appear that DCA has no real understanding of what's happening in the day care centers. Accomplishments are not recognized," says Karin Cook.

"According to Gloria Floyd of the Dwight Day Care Center, "If these cutbacks keep happening each year, the day care centers will end up closed."

### CPI Control

The Day Care Council views the addition of a support agency as a move to keep the centers under CPI control. A plan for coordination of the centers had been drawn up by the Inner City Cay Care Council. CPI's plan duplicates these efforts, and would set themselves up as the central group rather than the Council.

According to DCA Commissioner Ruben Figuera, CPI must be the channel through which funds flow. They may permit the Day Care Council to do the coordinating, but they would be "held responsible" for the success or failure of any decisions made.

Ethel Archibald refers to CPI's maneuvering as "evasion of the issues." She thinks that CPI will win, and will eventually be the coordinating agency for the centers. **But most of all, day care directors are up in the air. "It just isn't claar what's happening," says Connie Brown of the West Hills center. "We're in the middle and we just have to wait and see."**

"There aren't enough people at CPI to give attention to all the programs. They are buffers for DCA, a way of channeling *decisions," says Karin Cook. She points out that some requirements are "very*

unreasonable," including the expectation that the centers be open for 10 hours a day, with staff getting paid for only seven.

"The cutbacks don't allow us to a– achieve the more intimate relationship to the children that we were striving for," emphasizes Gloria Floyd.

# Is Death Penalty Dead?

**by David Rosen**
*Attorney*

The United States Supreme Court has spared the lives of six hundred men and women under the sentence of death in the United States.

The Court held that the death penalty has been so randomly and arbitrarily applied that it has become a "cruel and unusual" punishment prohibited by the Eighth Amendment to the Constitutuion. But even in this decision there are ominous forebodings.

Chief Justice Burger wrote a long dissenting opinion and pointed out that even the majority of the court stopped short of complete abolition of the death penalty. The very objection of the majority to "wanton and freakish" imposition of the death penalty, Burger said, left the way open for legislatures to create crimes for which the death penalty was mandatory.

And predictably the Governor Meskills and Mayor Rizzos have started campaigns to create new laws requiring the death penalty for certain crimes. These laws would be "fair" because everybody convicted would be executed.

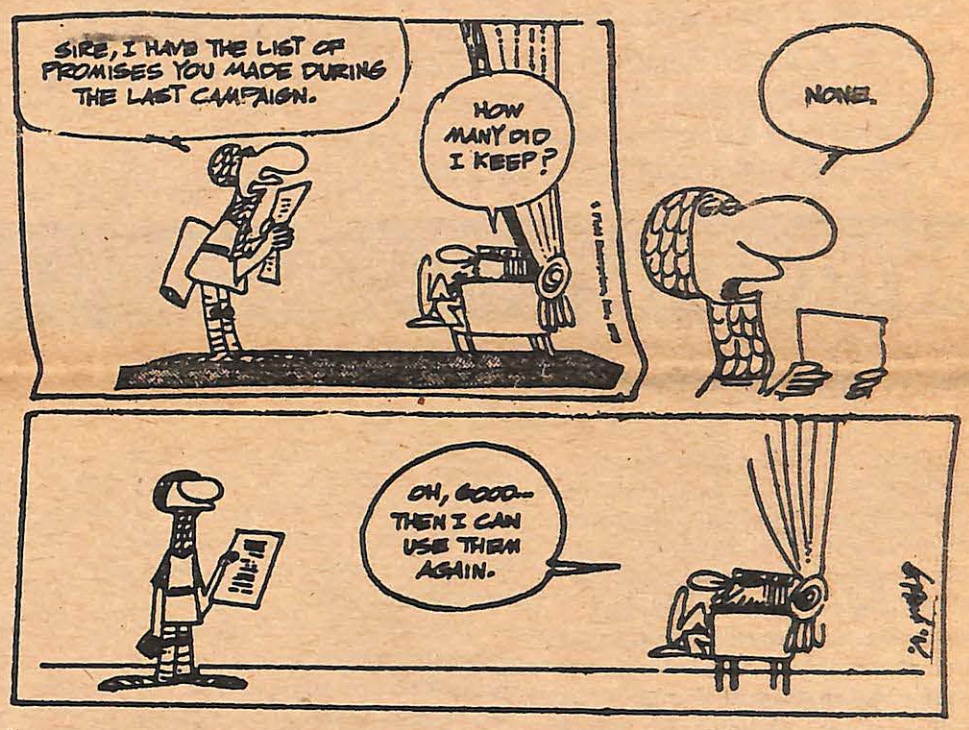
### Prospects of a Nixon Court

Does this kind of looney reasoning have any prospect of success? A second feature of the decision indicates that it might. The vote in *Furman versus Georgia*, last week's case , was five to four against the death penalty. The minority comprised all four Nixon appointees to the court.

The majority was five justices chosen by four different presidents. The vote in the capital punishment case shows that Nixon is trying to appoint justices who will turn against any progress made by the Supreme Court since Roosevelt, and return to the Supreme Court of Herbert Hoover.

And he is succeeding. If Nixon is re-elected he will undoubtedly be able to create a majority of the court in his image, a majority that will seize any opportunity to reinstate capital punishment.

In the meanwhile, six hundred people have been spared from the torment of waiting, locked in cages, to be executed. And there is at least the possibility that capital punishment is dead, not merely dormant.




# WomenChideScientists

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in New Haven recently held their annual meeting at the Center Church Parish House. The meeting featured a panel led by biologist Dr. Haig Papazian on "Scientist's Responsibility in Weaponry."

In his statement, which was adopted by the assembly, Dr. Papazian charged:

"In the war in Indochina foot soldiers are being replaced by scientists and technicians, who never make visual contact with the 'enemy,' and by scientific airwar devices.

"We urge scientists and technicians in the United States and in the world over to ponder seriously the effects of their labor and to act with due responsibility. We address ourselves, however, primarily to our own scientists, who made such great strides in the development of these vicious anti-personnel weapons, and urge them to apply their great talents, their great knowledge, their scientific know-how to alleviate human suffering, not to cause it."

The League is also urging New Haven residents to fill out the ballot below and send it to Washington. The poll is sponsored by Peace Alert USA, headed by Sen. Harold E. Hughes (D-Iowa), Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Rep. Donald W. Riegle, Jr., (R-Mich.), and Rep. Paul N. McCloskey, Jr. (R-Calif.).

**NATIONAL PEACE POLL**

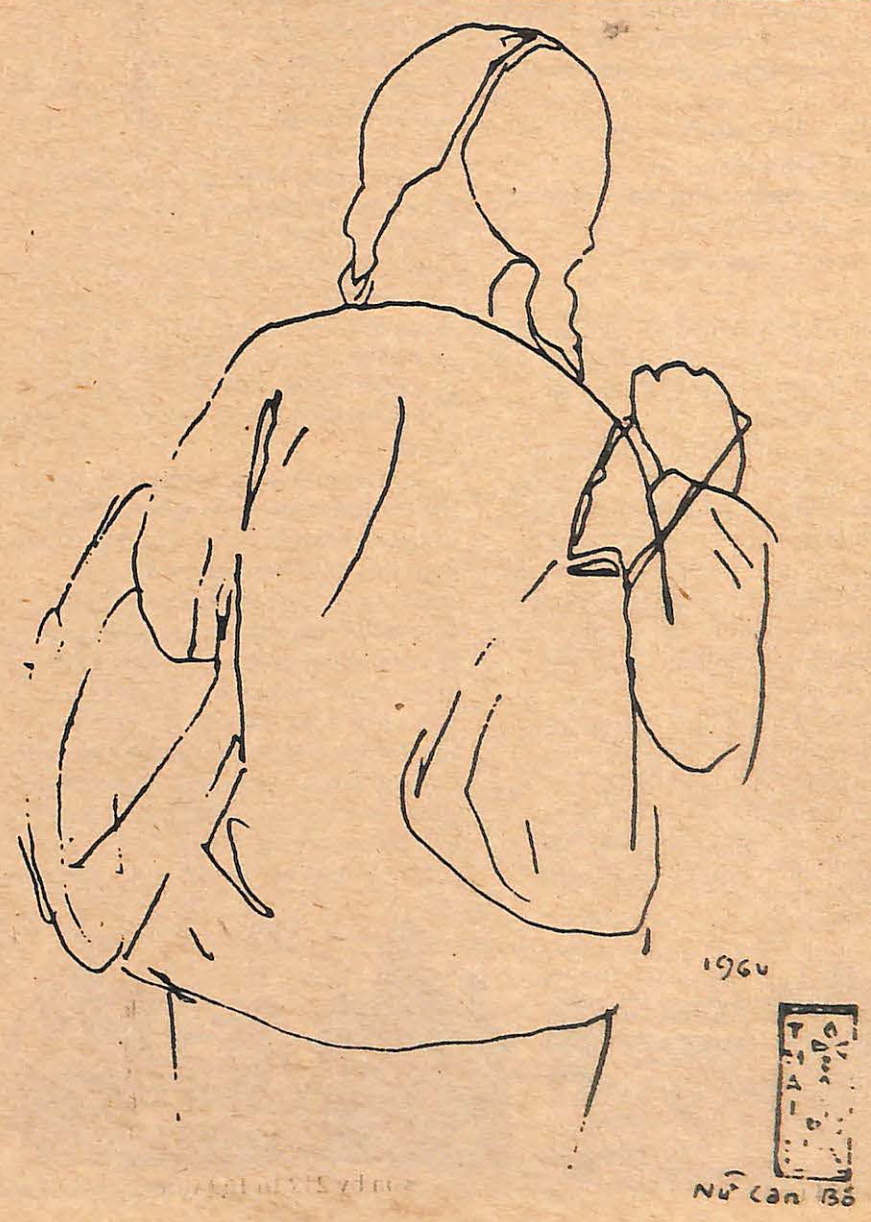
**"Should Congress bring the war to an end by cutting off the funds?"**

**YES____ NO____**

**Name:**
**Address:**

**Send this ballot, or write in on a card, to: National Peace Poll, Box 1621 Washington, D. C. 20013**

**WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM' NEW HAVEN BRANCH'**



# Editorial "Workfare" Undermines Labor

Workfare goes into effect in Connecticut on July 1. People on welfare will have to work to go on receiving their monthly checks. A good idea? We doubt it. Here's why.

The Federal welfare system was set up during the depression when a huge number of people were unemployed. The idea behind the system was to tide people over until they could find another job. What the welfare system did not face up to was the fact that unemployment is a constant of American economic life. In good times unemployment drops to 3% and in bad times rises over 20%. But it is always with us. Where will the jobs come from for people on welfare?

The workfare plan is to put welfare recipients with children over 6 to work for private industry, if there are jobs, or for the government. Unlike unemployment compensation, where the recipient can turn down several jobs if the pay is too low or the work unappealing, welfare recipients will have to take the job they are given--or else lose their welfare benefits. Most of the people affected are women with dependent children (AFDC cases). These women will no longer be allowed to choose to stay home with their children. They will have to work. And worst of all, the government jobs they will have to take will pay a wage of only $1.25 an hour.

The government bills workfare as a way of saving the working taxpayer money. Will it really be good for people with jobs?

Through the union movement working people in this country have fought very hard to win decent pay for their work. Workfare will not only mean miserably low wages for the people on it. Workfare will also undercut the entire wage system, particularly in the huge and growing sector of state employment. It is not yet clear that regular state employees-- in city hospitals, school cafeterias or government offices--will be fired to make room for workfare recipients. But it is very likely that as regular workers quit or retire, welfare workers will be hired to replace them.

Workfare is unfair--unfair for welfare recipients and unfair for working people. The only gainers are Welfare Commissioner White and Governor Meskill or are making political mileage out of taxpayers' desire to save money and the feeling most people share that no one should live off the rest of us. The National Welfare Rights Organization calls for a $6500 minimum wage for a family of four. *Modern Times* thinks that is a reasonable demand and that people should be able to earn that money at decent jobs with decent working conditions. The politicians who run Connecticut can't have it both ways--they can't demand that everyone work for a living and at the same time refuse to make the changes necessary to ensure full, well-paid employment for all.

"I ALWAYS HATED THOSE BASTARDS ON WELFARE... NOW I AM ONE!"

# Write On

## Fair Haven Views

*Editors note: The following excerpts from a letter to New Haven's Redevelopment Agency are important. They show the concerns about the severe problems of urban renewal that are too often forgotten by downtown bureaucrats and planners. They also show how important it always is to give the people affected a chance to speak and to influence what is done. As this letter indicates, the people in Fair Haven have very valuable questions to ask and suggestions to make.*

**Mr. William Donahue**
**Executive Director**
**New Haven Redevelopment Agency**
**157 Church Street**
**New Haven, Connecticut**

I am writing on behalf of the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation to express our views and concerns regarding the Fair Haven Renewal Plan.

We are supportive of the concept of renewing and revitalizing inner city neighborhoods which are deteriorating. However, we feel that any effort to renew a neighborhood, be it public or private, must be consistent with the goals af preserving the existing character of the neighborhood and emphasizing rehabilitation of residential structures.

Obviously this means that large scale demolition and the relocation of large numbers of families must be avoided to the maximum extent possible. We are strongly opposed to large scale demolition of residential or commercial structures. One thing the renewal process has demonstrated over the past twenty years is that demolishing large numbers of structures has not been the solution to the problem of how to revitalize deteriorating neighborhoods.

With this in mind we would like to make the following specific comments regarding the plan.

1. Relocation. With respect to this important matter, we are concerned because no one seems to have any specific and reliable information regarding the number of families to be displaced under the plan, where such families will be relocated and how the potential displacees will be informed of their rights to relocation benefits. Certainly we are not aware of any information regarding relocation data being made available to the public. We request that you provide us with this kind of information so that we can evaluate the proposed renewal plan in terms of its relocation plan. We would be willing to assist in any way in the process of helping to inform residents of Fair Haven of their rights to relocation benefits.

2. Grand Avenue Bridge. We oppose the construction of the Grand Avenue Bridge as being in direct conflict with the objective of preserving the existing character of the neighborhood. The proposed bridge involves the eventual elimination of existing business establishments at the eastern end of Grand Avenue and the construction of a four lane bridge with access roads. This project will involve large scale demolition which will result in questionable benefits to the community.

In addition our figures show that the city will lose $300,000 worth of taxable properties as a result of the bridge construction. What does the city gain by the construction of the bridge? How much new business will it bring and how was this determined? What effect will the bridge have on other businesses on Grand Avenue?

To the best of our knowledge there has been no comprehensive, independent study and evaluation to determine whether or not the bridge is feasible and needed. There is a feeling among many community residents that a new four lane bridge is not a priority need in the neighborhood because the traffic flow does not justify such a project. The only way to answer these legitimate questions is to have an independent consultant chosen jointly by the community and the Redevelopment Agency study the matter. We suggest as an alternative to the four lane bridge that the existing bridge be renovated and repaired.

3. Long Range Plans. We would like to know what long range plans for the Fair Haven neighborhood are being contemplated by the city and the Redevelopment Agency. Are such plans available and if not, are such plans likely to be developed in the near future?

I look forward to hearing from you at the earliest possible time regarding the concerns expressed in this letter. We are anxious to see the important work of renewing Fair Haven get started as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Frank Annunziato
President of the Board

Volume III Number 6
Circulation 4,000

MODERN TIMES welcomes all comments and letters to the editor.

MODERN TIMES

Subscriptions: 148 Orange St., New Haven
Editorial Offices: 441 Chapel St., New Haven
562-2510

MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions of the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commercial papers run for profit. There is no place else where the work and play of people who aren't rich is considered important enough to write about. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harassment that people live with is told by them.

We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. Then there would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, George Andrews, Harry Andrews, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Jerry Cohen, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Tony Dominski, Art Fleischner, Paul Gill, Sam Goodwin, Beverly Gouaux, Harry Henderson, Liz Henderson, Eileen Hoffman, Peter Jackson, Karl Lechow, Art Mazer, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Jim Jordan Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Florie Ricciuti, Dick Wieland, Ed Breuler Henry Tamarin, Rick Wolff, Karen Wolff.

# Building Trades Threatened

by Rick Wolff
*Modern Times Staff*

The men who work in the building trades are getting hurt by the rules of the economic system they work in. Last month nearly 50,000 union construction workers marched 7 miles through the rain outside Philadelphia. They were surrounded by 2,000 of Pennsylvania's 4,000 state police, sent by the Governor. This demonstration, organized by the Building and Construction Trades Council of Philadelphia and Vicinity, was called to protest and to stop the spreading use of non-union, lower-paid workers in construction.

The details of this story contain a message for all working people and especially unionists. The sore point outside Philadelphia was a new hotel being built by the Sheraton chain, which is owned by the ITT corporation. Small world. The hotel was being built by the Altemose Construction Company using non-union workers who were getting paid much lower hourly wages than union scale.

Union construction men, who were suffering severe unemployment for many months, were forced to watch other people grab these scarce jobs. The other people were willing to work for less pay with no job security and few of the benefits enjoyed by union workers.

### Unionists Angry

*Some of the unionists got mad. On June 5 some of them shook up the equipment of the Altemose Company at the hotel site. Then at the peaceful demonstration of 50,000 on June 23, one union leader said, "They'll never build that hotel. We won't sit idly by and watch competitors pay sub-standard wages."*

The anger of the unionists comes from more than fury about missing out on scarce jobs. It runs deeper than that. They are angry because for years, many a union construction man has gone to union meetings, endured some hard strikes, paid high union dues and helped to build a solid union organization. All that helped to win him the highest hourly wages going. Yet the way the system works, he still can't seem to really win.

The more successful the building trades unions are in getting good pay and job conditions for their members, the more the employers will try every possible gimmick to get out of paying for the benefits the unions were able to win. That is why construction companies are so busy trying to automate, to make less and less work for high paid construction workers, while shifting more to the lower paid shop-workers in the factories.

For the same reason, the companies are turning more and more to non-union labor. Lower wages and benefits for their employees mean higher profits for the employers. The endless battle of workers and owners is played out again.

In so many words, the owners of the companies are saying, "We will pay you low wages for your work. If by unionizing, you force us to pay more, we will just not hire you. It's low wages or no wages: you choose."

### Workers Loses

But that choice is like the "Heads-I-win, Tails-you-lose" trick. The workers is the loser either way. And weren't the unions built up just to make sure workers would not always find themselves on the short end of this economic system?

The 50,000 demonstrators outside Philadelphia marched for the right to picket non-union construction sites. They hope that picketing will stop construction. The Courts have forbidden them to picket, but even if they did, construction would probably continue.

The lesson in all this may be hard to face, but it is pretty clear. So long as there are working people NOT in the organized labor movement, the gains of any union are in constant jeopardy. The pay and benefits any union wins may be lost by the decision of the owners to find ways of hiring non-union labor instead. And can we expect people to stay in unions when that makes it harder, not easier to get work and live decently?

More American working people are outside the union movement than are in it - a lot more. The economic interests of union workers today and of all workers in the future, demand the commitment of men and women organizers and the funds to back them up to carry out the urgent task of organizing the unorganized. That was the deeper message from the demonstrations in Philadelphia.

**A driving rain storm fails to halt a seven mile march by nearly 50,000 members of the construction trades unions. They marched to protest increased non-union construction. (photo taken from AFL-CIO News)**

# brass tacks

# Why Hospital Unions?

by Gary Benenson

Most American workers don't work in factories anymore. And a *very large and growing number of them don't work for private business.* They are the service workers and they work for federal, state or local governments or for non-profit institutions such as hospitals and universities. Not surprisingly, their unions are the fastest growing unions in the country. – the National Union of Hospital Employees (Local 1199), the American Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of State , County and Municipal Employees to name a few. As these unions become important and powerful, many people ask themselves the question: *should workers who provide public services be permitted to strike, or are such strikes too damaging to the public as a whole.* As a hospital worker very strongly in favor of unionization, I will write mostly about hospital unions, but I think a lot of what I say could apply just as well to other types of service employees unions.

When hospital workers go on strike, the administration and often the press waste no time in branding the workers as "irresponsible", "unfeeling", "endangering the patients", etc. They imply that the administration is the group that's really concerned about the welfare of the patients, and that the workers and the union couldn't give a damn. Is this really true? After all, it's the workers, not the administrators, who have *been taking care of the patients for years and years until the strike. Furthermore,* the big majority of patients in a hospital and are more likely the friends and relatives of hospital workers than of hospital administrators. So how can anybody say the workers in a hospital aren't concerned about the patients?

### Why Strike?

Why, then, do hospital workers sometimes go on strike? First of all, as anybody who's ever been on strike for a while can tell you, nobody with a family really *wants* to strike. You go on strike because you don't see any other way out. It really depends on the administration--if they're willing to provide wages, benefits and working conditions that the majority of workers can accept, then there's no strike. If, on the other hand, they're not willing to pay more than poverty level wages or guarantee every worker's job security, what are workers supposed to do--humbly accept it? Before Local 1199 first went on strike in New York in 1959, the minimum wage in some hospitals was $30 a week. With the new contract it should be $142 a week--something which could not have happened without strikes and the threat of strikes.

In the end, of course, the public and the patients benefit too. One reason is that hospital workers usually spend most of the money they make, and higher wages for hospital workers means more money in circulation--particularly in the poor communities where hospital workers often live. Another reason why the patients benefit is that a man or woman who makes $142 a *week can provide much better care than someone who makes $30 a week--he or she* may not have to work another job, and in any case has fewer worries from home to bring to the job. Besides that, with a strong grievance procedure behind them, hospital workers don't have to beware of the boss all the time--instead they can relax and do their jobs.

### Deserve Decent Pay

On argument that is sometimes made against hospital unions is, every time the workers get a wage increase, the patients just have to pay for it in higher hospital bills.. It's true that the patients will have to pay more; but unions often handle the question this way: the workers, they say, have for too long borne the burden of low hospital costs; their time has come, and they (the workers) deserve decent pay. What the unions are really saying is--*either* the workers don't get paid enough *or* the patients will have to pay too much. And we'd rather see the patients had to pay too much. This doesn't make any sense. How do hospital workers expect their friends and relatives (who may not be insured) to pay their hospital bills, if costs keep skyrocketing upwards? How do they expect to win public support if they are willing to accept higher hospital costs in exchange for higher wages?

Hospital workers and their leaders should know that there is a way out of the dilemma of rising hospital costs. But it requires a different approach to the entire health care system. In a country as rich as our, no individual should face the responsibility of paying for his or her own health care. Decent health care facilities benefit everybody, whether sick or not, and should be paid for by everybody, according to their ability to pay, for example through an equitable tax system. This would relieve the burden from *both* the patients, who probably has enough problems just being sick, as well as from the worker. Of course, this kind of change will not happen overnight. But hospital workers' unions could be a much stronger force than they are in fighting for a different kind of health care system. There could be no surer way of enlisting the support of patients and the public in the hospital workers' struggle for decent conditions on the job.

**"If we're so valuable to the organization why are we paid so little?"**

# EAST SIDE ROUND UP

# Tempers Flare With Fireworks On 4th

by Frank R. Annunziato
*Modern Times Staff*

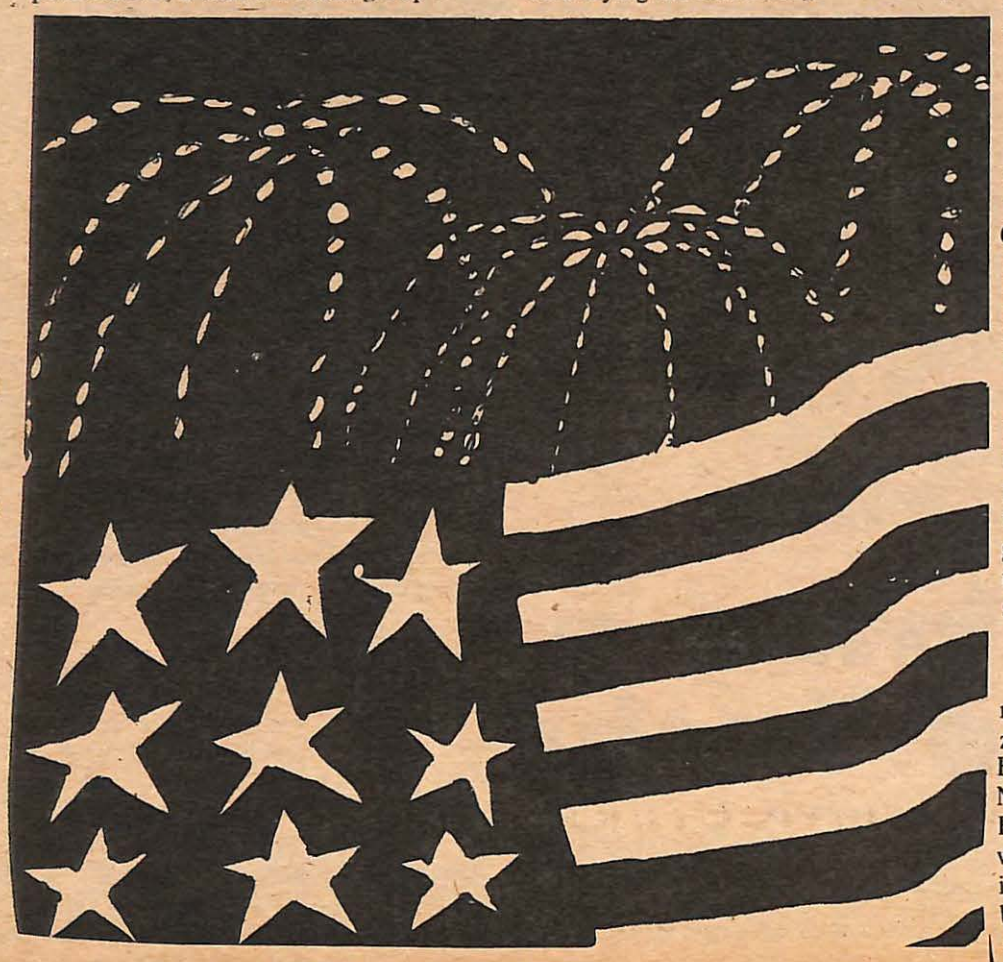
Throughout the years, the July 4 festivities in Fair Haven have lit up the skies for days and have probably damaged ear drums from one end of the neighborhood to the other. Kids and older people prepare for the grand event for weeks. Trips are made to New York and points south in order to get the loudest and brightest fireworks available. Days before the fourth, several rehearsals are held.

Then, finally, July 3--and all hell breaks loose. Crowds of people--young and old--gather round the corner of Lloyd and Woolsey streets. For five to six hours there are thousands of salutes and ashcans exploding and hundreds of skyrockets launched. This has been going on for years This year, though, a new special feature has been added to the festivities--black and white teen-agers fighting each other.

**Black/White Fighting Erupts**

Racial tension and violence is hardly a new thing anywhere, but in Fair Haven, people are generally agreed that things have never been so bad. Ever since school has been over, there have been reports of both individual whites and blacks fighting each other as well as group violence. Adding to the fact that school is out, the high unemployment especially among teenagers and Tough Tommie Meskill's budget cuts of summer programs are having disastrous results.

Hundreds of kids are hanging around with nothing to do. The first thing that kids think, in these times of so much racial polarization, is that one racial group or other is getting a better deal from somewhere. During the July 4 week-end, I went along with Tony Proto, Director of **Project Enough Inc.**, to talk to lots of the kids. We both agreed that both groups were saying the same thing. "We ain't got nothing here and those whities or niggers (choose one) are getting everything."



**Nobody is Getting Much**

That's a really funny statement in a neighborhood where the average family income is just a hair above $6000. With that money, nobody is getting much.

**Chief's Actions Applauded**

There were some bright spots in all of this, however. As an observer to what went on, I must applaud the way in which Chief Ben DiLieto handled the whole thing. He was on the scene constantly. Either personally directing police activities or talking to kids, the Chief was desperately trying to cool things down.

Arrests were kept to a minimum and people were let out quickly either on their own recognizance or when their parents came down to get them. Later on, the Chief set up meetings with both groups of kids as well as concerned adults to figure out what kinds of short range solutions could be found.

The other bright spot was the coordination among certain community organizations during the trouble. The Fair Haven Parents Ministry, the Fair Haven Neighborhood Corporation, and Project Enough Inc. were opened almost all night with their staff and Board members out in the streets talking to kids. Just two bright spots in a week-end filled with so much hate.

# *Dance For The Park*

**On the evenings of July 7,8 &9, Joan Stone performed her new dance, "Edgewood Park before the Olympic Rowing Course". She is actively opposed to the proposed rowing canal.**

# *Rowing Canal Protest*

*Continued from page 1.*

cluded residents from pre-high school age to the elderly. It was a dialogue in which the people said "We don't want this thing," while government officials responded with, "We know what's best for you."

Present were Director of Parks and Recreation Carl Nastri, Director of City Planning John McGuerty, and Alderman Alan DeLisle. Mrs. Berman, who was the only member of the Board to continually voice objections to the rowing course, chaired the session and answered questions.

Some residents expressed concern over added traffic in the area and the influx of large numbers of people. The Chapel St. bridge was cited as a major problem by many others. Rosponding to this vocal public opinion, an amendment was made calling for a loop road to replace the bridge. This road, closed to commercial vehicles, would be a "park drive" under Park Department authority.

**Where Will the Money Go**

The Rowing Foundation will raise its money after the contract is approved. Nastri said there is no legal way for the Foundation to build the rowing lagoon without the other facilities (public tennis courts, bicycle paths, swimming pool, etc.) The City will receive 5% of the gross receipts regardless of any profit or loss. Yet the Foundation claims it can not possibly estimate what the receipts will be.

Residents felt that no outfit, especially one led by the former head of Pan Am, would spend millions of dollars without some idea of how much they'd take in each year. It was later discovered (after the Board of Aldermen meeting) that the City will foot the entire utility bill for the rowing complex and that the Rowing Foundation has been negotiating for Federal aid on the project.

One angry man said the development would become another Coney Island. The land, he said, was willed to the city for a park in perpetuity, never to be touched. "You're going to have a sewer, not a rowing course," he cried. Opponents of the plan applauded , while proponents yelled that the park is a sewer now.

When asked his name, the man replied, "My name is Harry Brawn of Yale Avenue and I'll lead a parade. He also claimed city officials had been paid off to support the plan.

**Impending Loss**

John Thompson, father of seven children, spoke for the plan. He said he wanted to "make it a place where my children and your children can go." Now, he noted, he wouldn't send his kids there.

Richard Belford summed up the criticism of the rowing course proposal near the end of the two and one half hour meeting. He said it fell into three categories: financial, ecological, and the feeling that parks are for recreation, not olympics.

The general attitude of the crowd was one of impending loss. The protesters, as one woman called herself and friends, seemed determined to fight to the end. After the Board of Alderman vote some residents talked about a possible court injunction.

A large banner on the wall of the meeting room in Sheridan Middle School read, "You can make it if you try!" Westville residents weren't convinced.

# Angela DavisRally - It's Only the Beginning

by Joelle Dominski
*Modern Times Staff*

A bus full of us from the New Haven area joined with 15,000 other people to celebrate the victory of Angela Davis at a rally June 29 in Madison Square Garden. Angela spoke at the rally and called hers the first of many "people's victories" in the continuing fight to free all political prisoners.

The audience, which included many black, brown and white youth as well as older people, greeted Angela Davis with long, thunderous applause when she walked onto the stage. Her hour-long speech moved us all and elicited almost continuous applause. It is obvious that she has become an important leader.

The rally was not just a celebration of the past. It also pointed towards new work. The Committees formed to Free Angela Davis will now turn their efforts to freeing other political prisoners. Angela Davis read a list of some of those prisoners to the crowd.

Before Angela Davis was introduced, we had been treated to a concert by Jerry Butler, Pete Seeger, Jimmy Witherspoon, Ray Barreto and the Voices of East Harlem. The evening was a fundraiser for the huge expenses of the trial, and was sponsored by the Angela Davis Legal Defense Fund.

After the music, the clapping and singing were over, emcee Ossie Davis announced that Henry Winston would introduce Angela Davis. Winston, chairman of the Communist Party, was blinded while a political prisoner in the 1950's. The audience rose for a standing ovation.

Angela Davis spoke of the "irresistable power and strength we could generate if we can only pull ourselves together and organize ourselves." She pointed out, "It is the multi-millionaire corporations who are robbing the people and pulling the strings," and who send "police forces into the barrios and ghettos of this country" and "armies and planes with computerized deaths into Vietnam."

She spoke of the wage freeze, the need for women's equality, decent housing and education and other aspects of the current crisis in this country. She stated her belief that "we are going to have to begin talking about socialism" if "we are looking for alternatives to this system." She also spoke of the candidacy of Gus Hall and Jarvis Tyner for president and vice-president on her party's ticket.

Angela Davis concluded by saying, "Now is the time to teach the rulers of this country a few lessons--that thousands and thousands of us are here not to praise them or celebrate the court system...but to tell them that this victory we are celebrating is one we ourselves won and is just a small taste of what they can expect from us from now on".

Angela Davis, fists raised, addresses a large and enthusiastic crowd at Madison Square Garden. (Daily World photo by Bill Andrews)

## Open Line

# What Meeting? That Was a Happening!

by Harris Stone

I went to the July 10 meeting of the Board of Aldermen expecting the Board to approve Juan Trippe's proposal to turn Edgewood Park into an Olympic Rowing Course. The Mayor, the Democratic Town Chairman, a spokesman for the "Parker Democrats" had all endorsed the scheme the previous week after Trippe had spent some time in New Haven wining and dining the politicians.

A vote in favor of the rowing course was predicted in spite of the fact that over 900 people had signed petitions against it; a vast majority of the 150 people who attended a meeting at Sheridan Middle School on July 5 had spoken out against it; and not one of the approximately 225 people who attended Joan Stone's dance performances of "Edgewood Park before the Olympic Rowing Course" on July 7, 8, and 9 seemed in favor of the scheme.

Expecting the worst, I was still shocked to hear Vincent Mauro, president of the Board of Aldermen, stand up after a brief recess in the heated meeting and say that he had just telephoned Juan Trippe and told him that an amendment had been passed giving final approval of the rowing course plan to the Board of Aldermen. Trippe had said this was totally unacceptable. He wouldn't build the rowing course if the Board of Aldermen had the final say. Mauro moved to rescind the amendment.

I couldn't believe my ears. Was it possible that one man who lived somewhere in New Jersey could dictate the *actions of the elected representatives of* the 140,000 residents of New Haven? What does the democratic process mean if such a thing is possible? The aldermen had just debated the issues for hours, thought about the plan for months, studied the contract, held public hearings, written reports. How could one man--founder of Pan American Airlines, Yale alumnus, president of the International Rowing Foundation--how could he override their decision?

Mauro sat down. The vote was taken. The amendment was rescinded!

The packed gallery of people who had come to observe the meeting gasped in disbelief. Alderman O'Neill leapt from his seat and stormed out of the Chamber muttering: "You've turned this city over to Juan Trippe. You've made us look like fools." Alderman Carusone, who had repeatedly spoken out against the plan as a sell-out of the people of New Haven, also left in disgust. Alderwoman Berman, who had called the Sheridan meeting to hear her constituents' opinions and who had led the debate against the plan all evening, cried out in dismay: "You've given away what little power this Board of Aldermen has." A young woman from the gallery left the Chamber shouting in bitter anger: "Sell-outs! Pigs! Crumbs! How can you live with yourselves!"

The rest of us in the gallery filed out. It was a grim moment but we re-grouped in the hallway to talk about continuing the fight. Several avenues of attack are still open: the proposal may be illegal; it may violate a provision of the City Charter; Edgewood Park may be protected by the new wetlands legislation. In Adlerwoman Berman's words: "Edgewood Park is and must remain a people's park!"

FILMSFILMSFILMSFILMSFILMSFILMSFILMS

TWO FILMS FROM CHILE

"VALPARAISO MI AMOR" "CHILE PUTS ON LONG PANTS"

Sunday, July 30, 1972 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

at Beckton Engineering Building Auditorium
corner of Prospect and Grove

$1.50 Tickets available at the Angela Davis Bookstore and at the door

Benifit for the Angela Davis Bookstore and the Third World Cinema Group

## Time Out On The Green

Providing the weather is pleasant, a fairly regular crowd gathers at the New Haven Green for a bit of relaxation. This is a familiar scene. (M-T photo by Ed Breuler)

## M-T Vacation Schedule

After this issue there will be one more, the August 1-15 issue. Then the MODERN TIMES staff will be taking a vacation. The first issue after our vacation will be the September 15-30 issue.

# Abortion Conference Set

The Women's National Abortion Action Coalition (WONAAC) is sponsoring a conference on Saturday and Sunday, July 15 and 16 at Hunter College in New York City. Women from all over the country will assemble to map out a national plan of action in support of a woman's right to abortion.

Several women from Women vs. Connecticut, the group which has led the fight for legalized abortion in the state and repeal its antiquated abortion laws have coordinated the conference.

Topics will include the creation of a public national tribunal on abortion, contraception and forced sterilization and a petition drive in support of the Abortion Rights Act of 1972.

For further information call:
Bernie Krawczyk.....377-2367
Kathy Landry.....787-2696.

ON FILM

# 90 Pound Weakling Fantasy Flicks

**by Harry Henderson**

Gumshoe: Directed by Allan Frears; starring Albert Finney
Play It Again Sam: Directed by Herbert Ross; from a play by Woody Allen; starring Woody Allen.

Dreams of Glory Department: When the bully kicks sand in your face, kick over a chair, gamble a postage stamp on a Charles Atlas course and next summer (or was it next week?) come back and paste 'im one while your girlfriend looks on.

And if your girlfriend gives you any lip, well as the imitation Bogart says in *Play It Again, Sam,* "I never met a woman yet who didn't understand a slap in the face or a slug from a .45."

People have always enjoyed films about the Little Guy Striking Back, and in two new films he does just that. One film is American, *Play It Again, Sam* , and one is English, *Gumshoe,* and in both the Little Guy is Jewish, or ought to be--even the very English Albert Finney in *Gumshoe* keeps calling himself a "shnook."

Even that is fair enough, because in both films the Little Guy triumphs through one of the most American of fantasies, and the Jew is stereotyped as the meek Little Guy in this country.

**Tough Guy Fantasy**

What's unusual about *Gumshoe* and *Sam* is not that they have Little Guys who live on fantasy, but that it's the same fantasy, and a nostalgic one at that. The fantasy is of the hardboiled tough guy that appeared in novels by Hammett and Chandler in the thirties and forties, and was most memorably played in the movies by Humphrey Bogart.

In both films, the leading character, *Woody Allen in Sam, Finney in Gumshoe,* is in the same situation. His wife has recently left him and he is desperately trying to hide his feelings of loneliness and inadequacy by pretending to be a Bogart-like tough guy.

They go to the past for their fantasy figure because the hardboiled hero of the Depression and World War II era had enough realism and compassion in his makeup to keep a little sense of proportion and decency in his nuttiness, unlike the fascist Mike Hammers and James Bonds of the Cold War years.

The hardboiled hero was an image of competence, of an alive mind, as well as an able hand. He was stoical about things he couldn't change, but was relentless in exploring every possibility for helping the people he worked for. He cannot be frightened or intimidated by anybody on either side of the law.

His morality was a curious mixture--half professional ethics, half an extraordinary compassion for the victims of corrupt people and corrupt systems. The hardboiled hero is a loner--he is as good as a person can be if he will never lean or depend on anyone else.

It makes sense that these films would go into the past for this figure. People move around a lot in this society. Families don't stay together. A lot of people are out of work, and those who are working know that they can be earily replaced. Our society constantly teachers people not to depend on each other.

**Half-serious and Fluff**

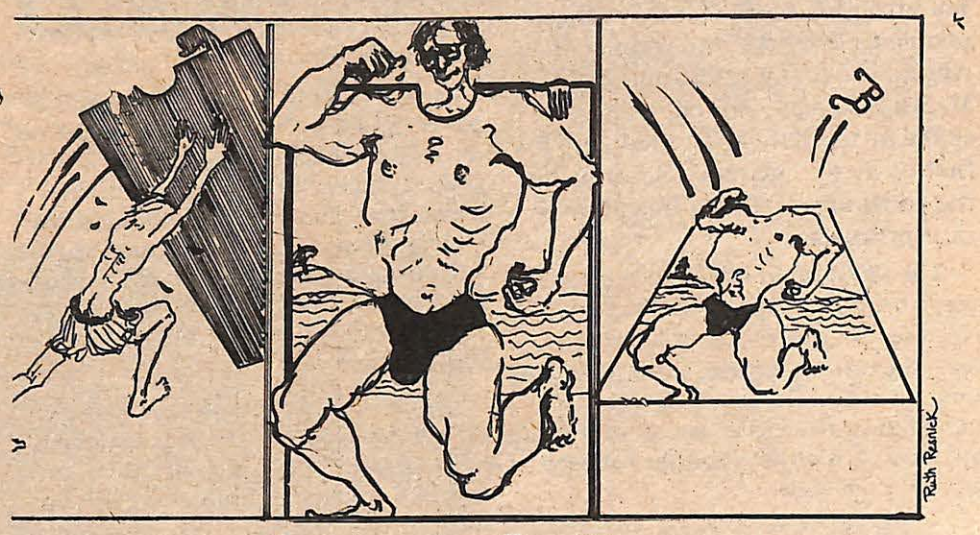
*Gumshoe* is a half-serious film. It has Albert Finney put in a fine performance as a stumblebum comedian turned investigator. Tuned in on Jerry Lee Lewis records, he mimics the snappy dialogue of the classical hard-boiled writers while running down a plot to run guns to Africa. A nice idea, but it never quite makes up its mind as to whether it's kidding or not. Only for hard-boiled addicts.

*Play It Again, Sam,* is a glossy Hollywood product which knows very well that it is pure fluff. Allen fills the silence with constant rueful cracks about his inadequacy as a lover, punctuated with ancient sight gags. When the timing is right--and it usually is--they still raise a laugh. He has the ghost of Bogart himself--convincingly played by Jerry Lacey--at his elbow on date after date while he tries to play out a he-man fantasy. It's a Casablanca Bogart, while *Gumshoe* is a Maltese Falcon. (True Bogart fans will understand).

Women don't come out very well in either film, but then these films are about male fantasies, and every society gets the fantasies it deserves.

As for nostalgia, I think we can expect more of it in films. Hollywood is fed up with 1972, even if the rest of us aren't. At

CINEMA 1-2-3- *Play It Again, Sam* was playing in between *The Godfather* and *Fiddler on the Roof*.. "It's still the same old story..."



# Give Us Bread And Roses

**by Nancy Klein**
*with the assistance of Karen Wolff and Frank Annunziato*

*Editors' Note: The author presented this talk to the Graduation Ceremonies of the High School in the Community (Unit I) on June 17, 1972, at Edgewood Park. We think it deserves publishing.*

The theme of today's graduation is bread and roses. Throughout history, bread has symbolised survival. Bread - food - is a basic necessity of life. When a society cannot give bread to its people, it can give nothing. Roses signify beauty. They represent culture, and an appreciation of art.

*The theme of bread and roses has* played an important part in the history of America. Unfortunately, a great deal of American history is never taught us and we are ignorant of many important forces which have shaped this country.

One of the major things we are all interested in is the struggle to better our living conditions and to create a meaningful life. An example of this struggle is a strike which occured in 1912 in Lawrence, Mass. Textile workers, mostly women, mainly immigrants from Italy, Poland, and Hungary, a large number teenagers, carried on a ten-week strike. They were led by the Industrial Workers of the World, one of America's first industrial unions. They were living in Lawrence, earning very low wages, in very bad tenement apartments with shabby conditions and high rent. These workers struck against a cut in wages which the textile mill owners wanted. The demands during the ten-week strike were for a 15% increase in wages on a 54 hour work week, and double time for over time. After a very hard strike, in which many were arrested and some killed, the workers won their demands.

Nancy Klein addresses the graduating class of HSC. (m-t photo by Jack Sal)

But the most significant result of the strike gave the people a feeling of pride in themselves, and a sense of dignity. They learned, through taking part in the struggle, that they, as working people, were one of the most important groups in the growth of America. This was the spirit, as the workers held the picket signs which read "We want bread and roses, too."

**Need for Tradition**

Why, then, have we chosen such an old theme, seemingly so far removed from high school and education? Because this theme still has meaning to all of us. We recognise the tradition in our history of *the struggle for bread and roses. We, as* graduating students, are about to begin to participate in American society and we seek these, bread and roses, also.

As we look at the world around us we see many different kinds of lives. To some, life is a struggle for bread alone. They strive for material possessions, and do so at the expense of others. Wages are kept low and prices high so that a few can have more money, more possessions, more power. Our need for good, nutritional foods is ignored, our environment is becoming frighteningly near the danger zone with air pollution, water pollution, and overpopulation simply because this way it is more profitable.

To others, life has become one of roses, the pursuit of beauty. They cannot, however, forget their need for bread, obtained either by their own struggling, or by the struggling of others. The search for roses alone cannot be done without having the luxury of bread first.

Our society is obviously not yet one of bread and roses. People have struggled for both of these and we will continue to struggle. We, all of us, are searching for a way to better our society and ourselves.

The struggle of black people for basic human rights they are entitled to, and for the right to have a good life; the struggle of women, and men to overcome the sexism in our culture and see each other as people; these along with the struggle of all working people, are examples of people striving for a meaningful existence, bread and roses.

The disgust we all feel at the war in Indochina and our various methods of dissension against it are part of our struggle to understand how we can effectively voice our opposition to government policy and demonstrate real power to change it, a right which we are entitled to and which we would have in a society of bread and roses.

**Understand to Improve**

However, until we understand our society, *we can't improve it. One of the* High School in the Community's goals has been to provide a place where we can begin to learn about and understand our society. We have tried to achieve these goals by providing classes which teach about society from a different perspective than traditional high schools, by having a student body, composed of many different groups, small enough so that we could intermingle, and a student voice in school government and policy. In looking at how well we have carried these out, I would say that we have come close to failing, that we have only taken a small step in the right direction. However, it is a big demand for the first year of a new experimental school. We have gotten a glimmer of how difficult it is for a school to fulfill these goals.

As we learned from our experience at HSC, we realise how difficult it is to change our environment. Nevertheless, we, like all other members of the American community, demand that society give us the basic necessities for our bodies, beauty for our minds, bread and roses.

In conclusion I would like to read a poem which was written by James Oppenheimer, and inspired by the textile workers strike I alluded to, entitled Bread and Roses.

As we come marching, marching in the beauty of the day,
A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts grey.
Are touched with all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses.
For the people hear us singing, "Bread and Roses! Bread and Roses!"

As we come marching, marching, unnumbered women dead
Go crying through our singing their ancient cry for bread.
Small art and love and beauty their drudging spirits knew.
Yes, it is bread we fight for - but we fight for roses, too!

As we come marching, marching, we bring the greater days.
The rising of the women means the rising of the race.
No more the drudge and idler--ten that toil where one reposes,
But a sharing of life's glories: Bread and Roses! Bread and Roses!

As we come marching, marching, we battle too for men,
For they are women's children, and we mother them again.
Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes;
Hearts starve as well as bodies; give us bread, but give us roses!

# Brewster Estate--Best Park in City

Rules and Regs

Photo Story by Peter Irvine

Tucked away behind imposing stone walls facing on Whitney Avenue right at the Hamden town line, Brewster Estate has been well hidden from public view. Once a private estate of immense size, it was given to the City of New Haven to be used as a park. Even though this happened a few years ago, people generally don't know about it yet.

Rich in hills and valleys, covered with trees, pathways, greenhouses, the park (former playground of the wealthy) has unusually good facilities for young and old. So far, the not so poor residents of the East Rock area have been enjoying it almost by themselves, because they knew of the joyful place that became open nearby. Although the park has a sign at the upper entrance forbidding ballplaying, bicycling, and many other normal activities for the outdoors, these rules are largely ignored.

Pathways

Mountain Laurel and Stone Bridge

Ancient Trees

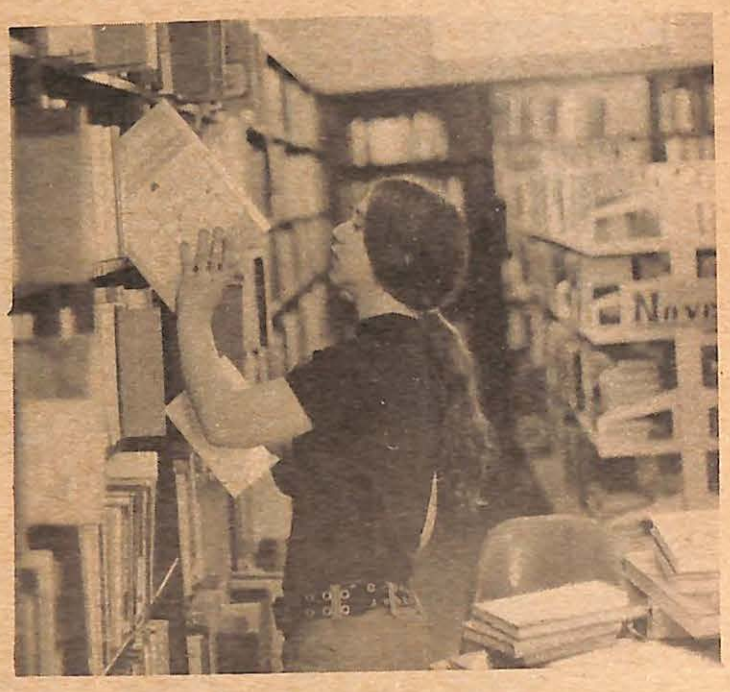
Large Meadows

Gardens

# On The Job — Job Corps—Summer in the City

Keith Marshall, Charles Mitchel Moore, Darryl Smith and Carmel Acampora at the Davenport Library on Portsea Street.

Darryl Smith sweeps up outside.



Carmel Acampora reshelves books.

**Taken from an interview with Carmel Acampora, Darryl Smith and Charles Mitchel Moore, participants in the Neighborhood Youth Corps.**

M-T photos by Matt Borenstein.

**Carmel Acampora:** I work at the Davenport Library on Portsea Street. I've been shelving books from the beginning of the week. I finished today, Friday. I put the books that people have returned in the order of a special kind of number system based on numbers and letters - the Dewey Decimal. This week alone I did about 4000 books.

**Darryl Smith:** I shelve books too, put them in order, clean up outside, and sit around when I'm finished.

***Charles Mitchel Moore:*** *I've been shelv*ing books too. I enjoy the job. It's all right. But when we first came it was kind of difficult. It's easier for Carmel cause she worked in a library before.

**Carmel:** When I was small I used to come to this library. I always used to go to the story hours and help people out. If you understand the number system for shelving books, then the work is simple.

Shelving isn't the only thing we're going to do here this summer. They say we're going to be showing films to elderly people in convalescent homes, telling stories to children at story hour twice a week and doing arts and crafts with the little children. Right now they weren't *prepared to give us anything special to do, so right now* we're shelving books.

We started with training for the things we have to do Friday, June 30, but we started here at the library Monday, July 3, and we'll work till August 24. Our hours are not based on so many a day. It's based on a 24 hour week and you can arrange it any way you want to, as long as you do not go over the 24 hours. The Neighborhood Youth Corps, where the money comes from, planned it out so that they cannot afford to pay for more than 24 hours a week for $1.85 an hour.

**Darryl:** I got the job through Lee High School. I filled out an application and *then they called me and I went to a meet*ing downtown at the main library. They showed us a film about how to read books to little kids and all that stuff.

**Carmel:** I got the job through the work study program at Lee High too. We had to fill out a form and they asked for your family income. They sent it downtown to someone in charge and that person would decide whether your family is making enough. They would either approve or reject your application on that basis.

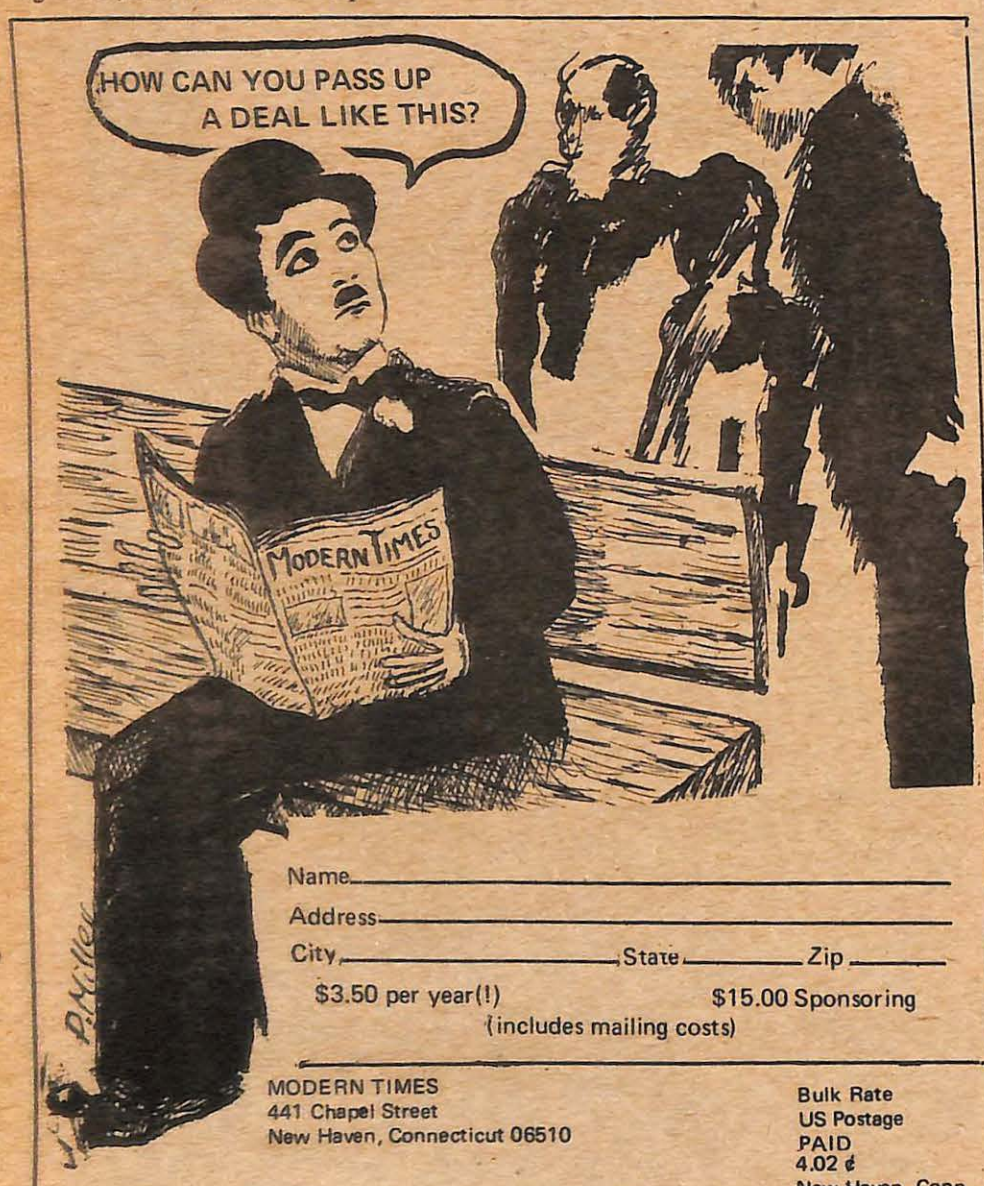
My father got a heart attack last December at the age of 40. He hasn't been able to work since then. My older sister brings home $45 a week working at Big Buy and that helps. My mother was in an auto accident 6 years ago and wrenched her arm all out so she can't work.

**Darryl:** This is my first summer job. I'm 14 - Carmel's 15. This isn't my first job though, I used to sell papers. I had *a paper route.*

**Carmel:** I used to be a newspaper girl.

**Darryl:** The one thing I don't like about this job is it's hot in here and I don't like the water. It's not cold. But really, I like everything about it. I like doing the job.

Charles Mitchel Moore relaxes after work.




Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

$3.50 per year(!) $15.00 Sponsoring
(includes mailing costs)

MODERN TIMES
441 Chapel Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06510

Bulk Rate
US Postage
PAID
4.02 ¢
New Haven, Conn.
Permit No. 89

## Classified

Drum set for sale – 4 piece Tempro High Hat, 20" Beverly Ride and 15" Ziljbian Cymbals.
Call 777 - 0256

Apartment wanted in Orange St. area - Call Modern Times 562 -2510

From time to time *Modern Times* reprints articles from the Hospital Workers Newsletter which is put out by the Concerned Hospital Workers of Yale New Haven Hospital (CHW). The CHW has been active in building a union at the Hospital. The Hospital bosses do not allow them to distribute their newsletter on Hospital property. If you are interested in happenings at the Hospital and the organizing drive you can get copies of the newsletter at these stores: Len-Mac Cleaners, Del's Liquor Store and the Stumble Inn Cafe (Howard and Sylvan); also Danny's Barbecue and Acky's Restaurant (Congress and Cedar).

## NOTICES

There will be a film showing and discussion with local obstetrician of the Lamaze Method of Childbirth on Thursday, July 20 at 7:00 pm in Macy's Community Room, 2nd floor.
Donation: $1.00.
For further information call 387-2460

JULY 14, 15, 16 – "Endgame" by Samuel Beckett, directed by Bob Breuler. Fri. and Sat. at 8:00, Sun. at 6:30. Free.

JULY 21, 22, 23 – An evening of plays directed by Salvatore Pace of the Exit Experimental Theatre Company, including "The Informer" by Brecht, "Deathwatch" by Genet, and "The Customs Collector in Baggy Pants" by Ferlinghetti. Fri. and Sat. at 8:00, Sun. at 6:30. Free.